
AMAZING FACTS
PRESENTS
THE
PROPHECIES
OF DANIEL & REVELATION



Welcome to our first study, dealing with The Millennial Man which can be found in Daniel 2:1-49.



Our study will focus on Daniel 2:1-49.



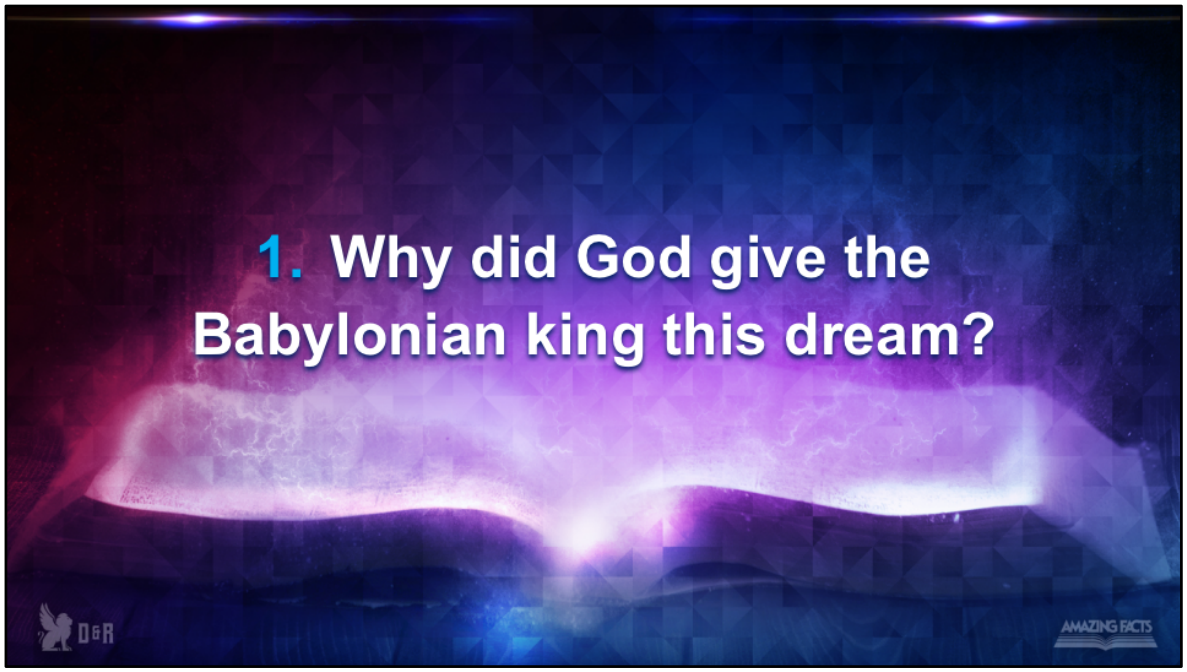
The vast kingdom of Babylon was opulent and prosperous.

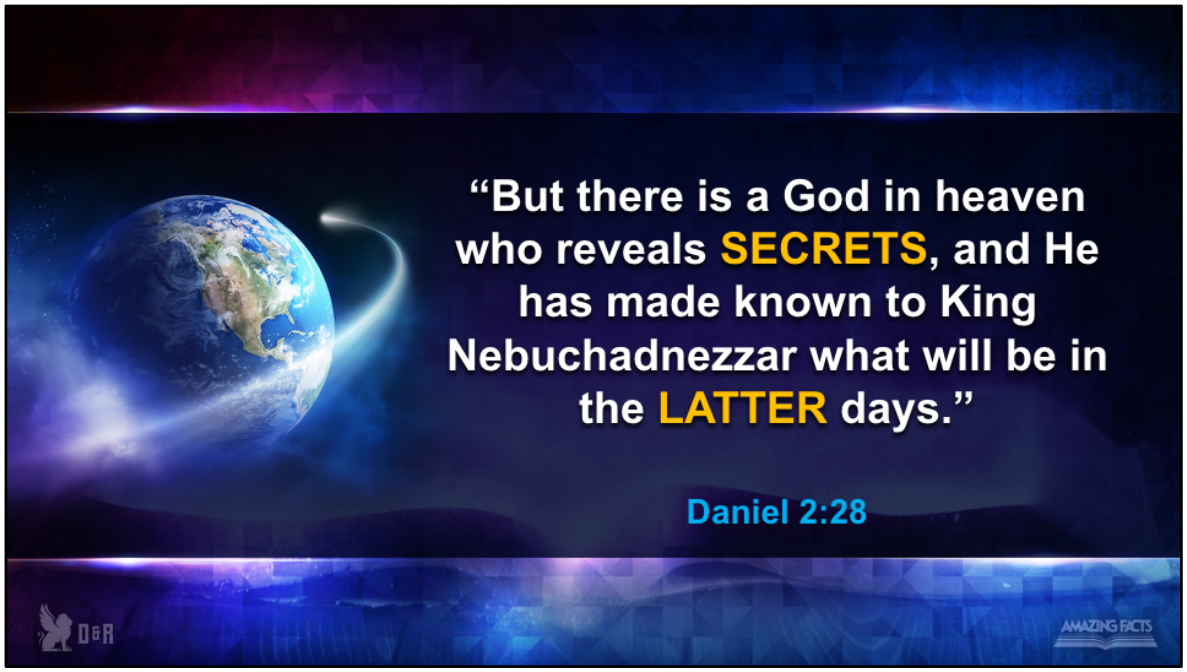


Yet, Nebuchadnezzar the king stirred in his royal bed. How long would this golden era last, he wondered, and what would become of his powerful empire when he was gone?

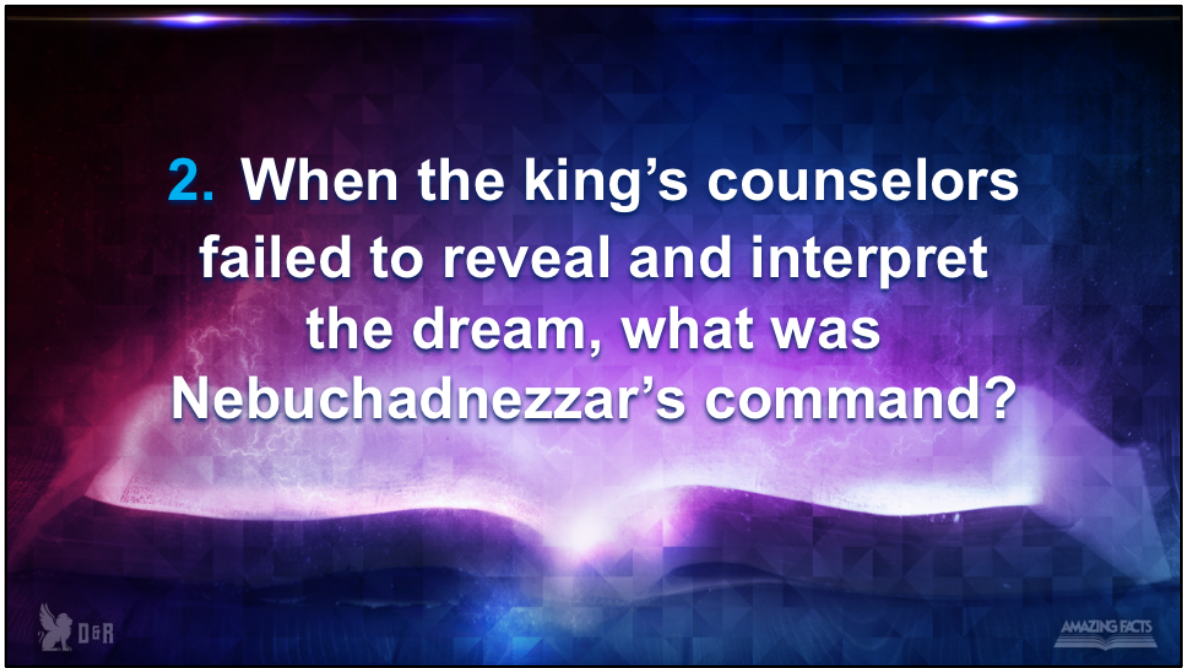


With these disturbing questions in mind, the mighty monarch drifted off to sleep. That night, a vivid image of a towering multi-mineral man flashed into his mind with a panorama of color unlike anything he had ever experienced. Throwing aside his embroidered covers, the king jumped out of bed and shouted to his bodyguards: “Call all the magicians and astrologers to come at once. I must know the meaning of this dream!”


1. Why did God give the Babylonian king this dream?
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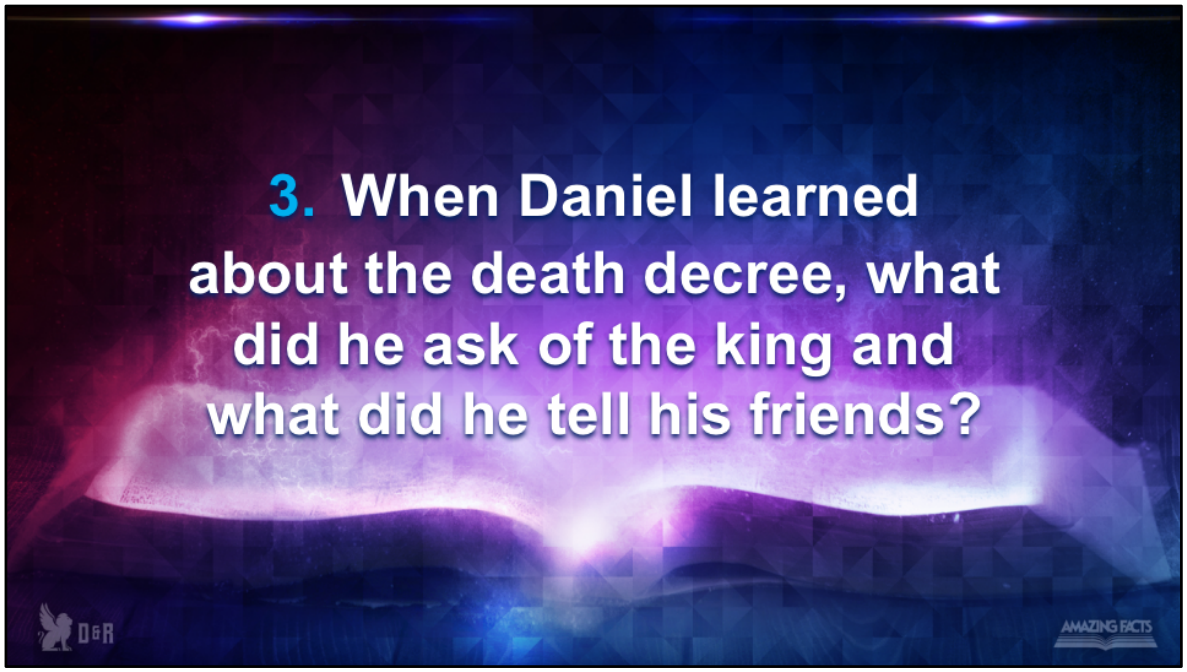


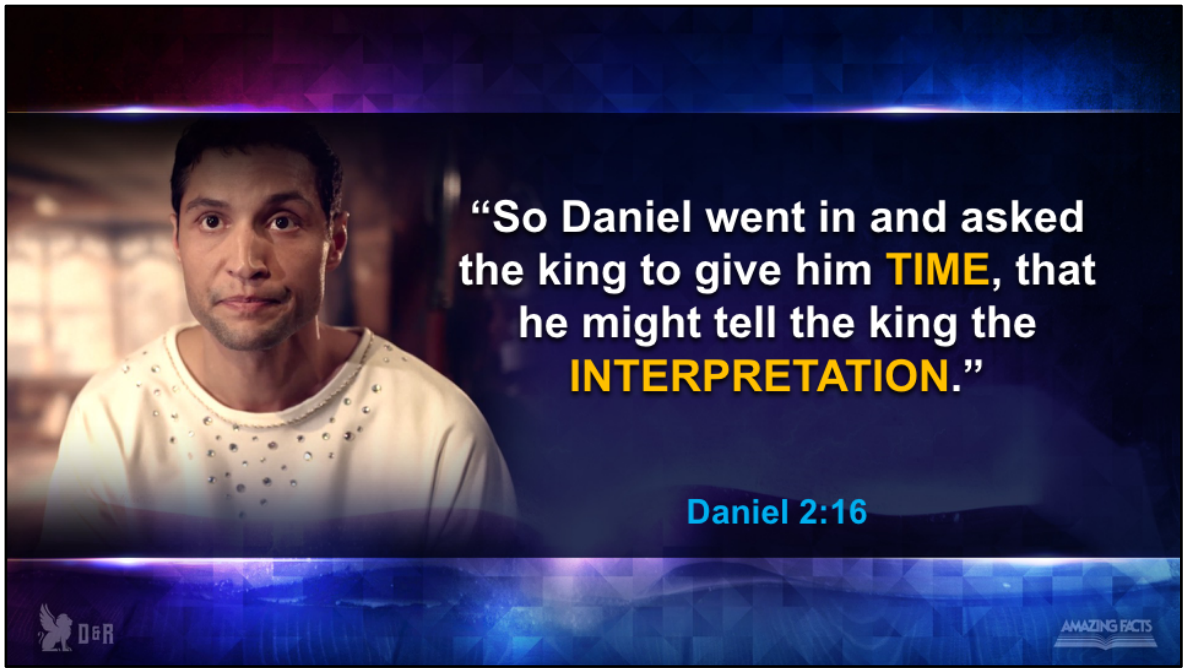
In this dream of the multi-mineral image, God outlined for all future millenniums the rise and fall of the empires that would have a direct influence on His people.

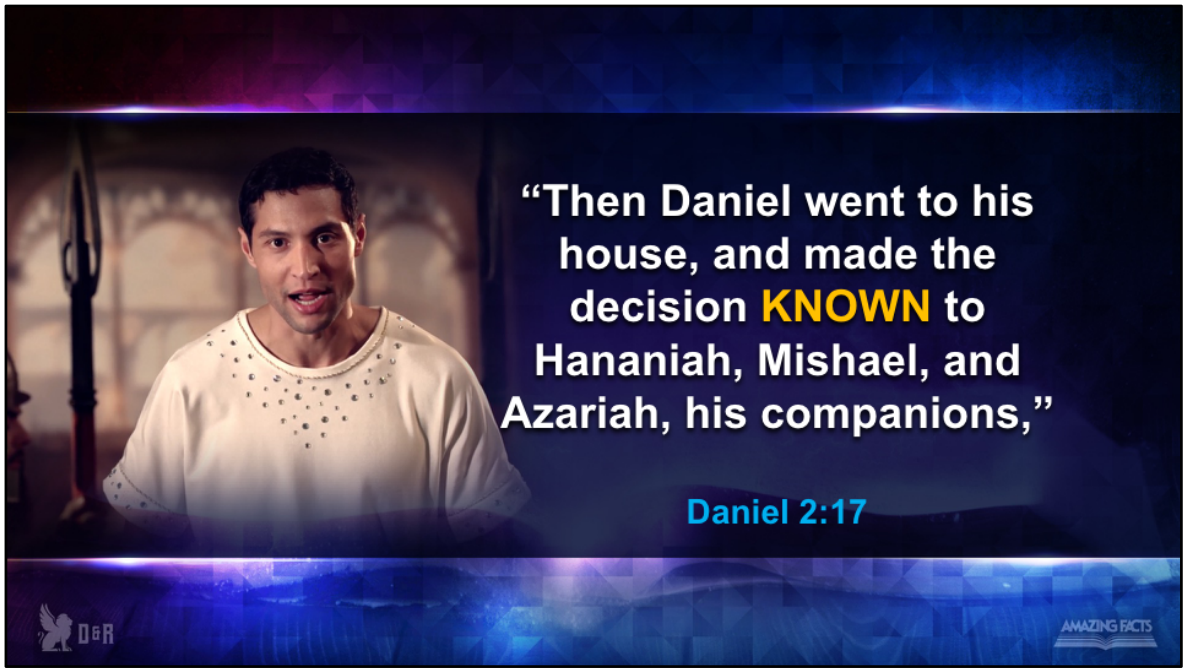

2. When the king's counselors failed to reveal and interpret the dream, what was Nebuchadnezzar's command?
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The astrologers and magicians of Babylon claimed to have supernatural power, but when they could not reveal the dream to the king, they were shown to be impotent imposters. If the king had recalled the dream, they would have simply manufactured a bogus interpretation. In his rage, Nebuchadnezzar commanded all the wise men to be slain—even those who were not present. Among those absent from the first meeting with the king was a God-fearing captive named Daniel, who had just been trained for the king's service.


3. When Daniel learned about the death decree, what did he ask of the king and what did he tell his friends?
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"So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him TIME, that he might tell the king the INTERPRETATION."
Daniel 2:16
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"Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision KNOWN to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions,"
Daniel 2:17
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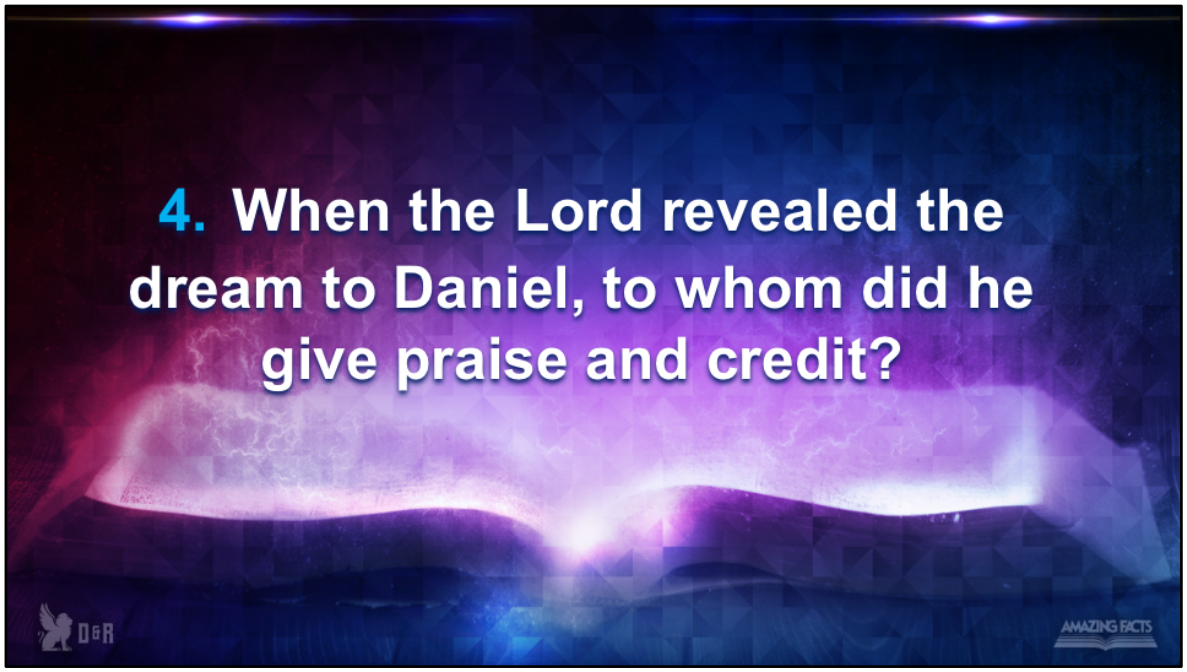

"that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this SECRET, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon."
Daniel 2:18
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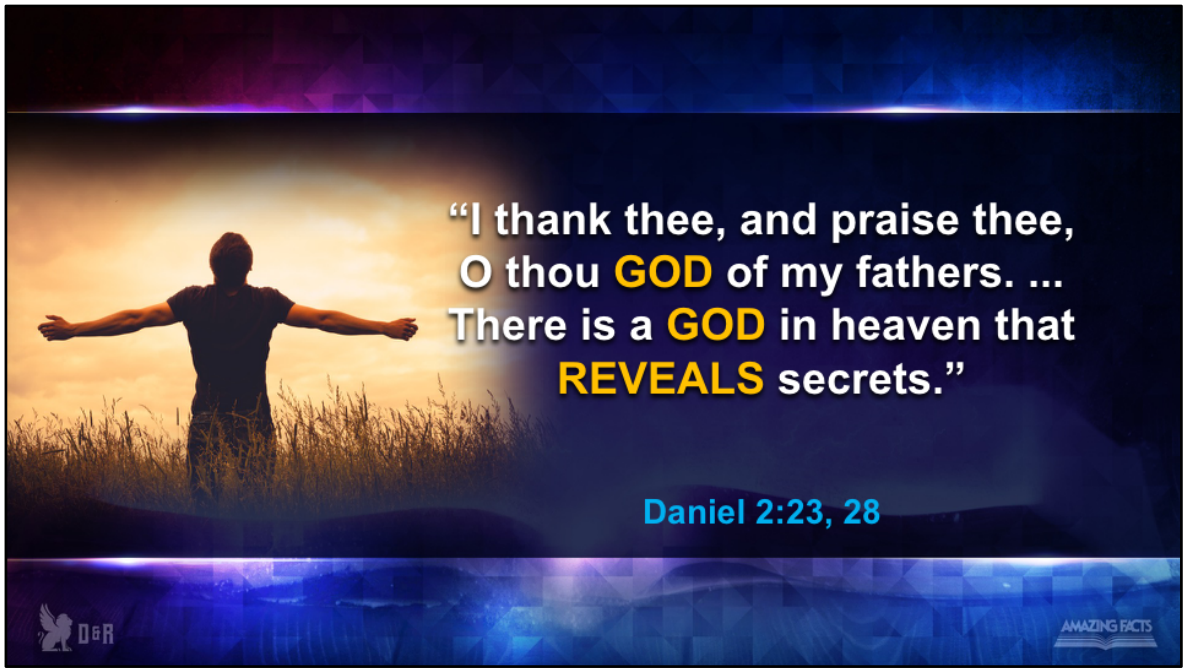


Daniel requested a little time from Nebuchadnezzar and promised that he would reveal the dream and its meaning. The king, who was still desperate to know the significance of his vision, granted Daniel's request.



Then he and his friends appealed to the only Source who could reveal the king's dream. They prayed to the God of heaven.

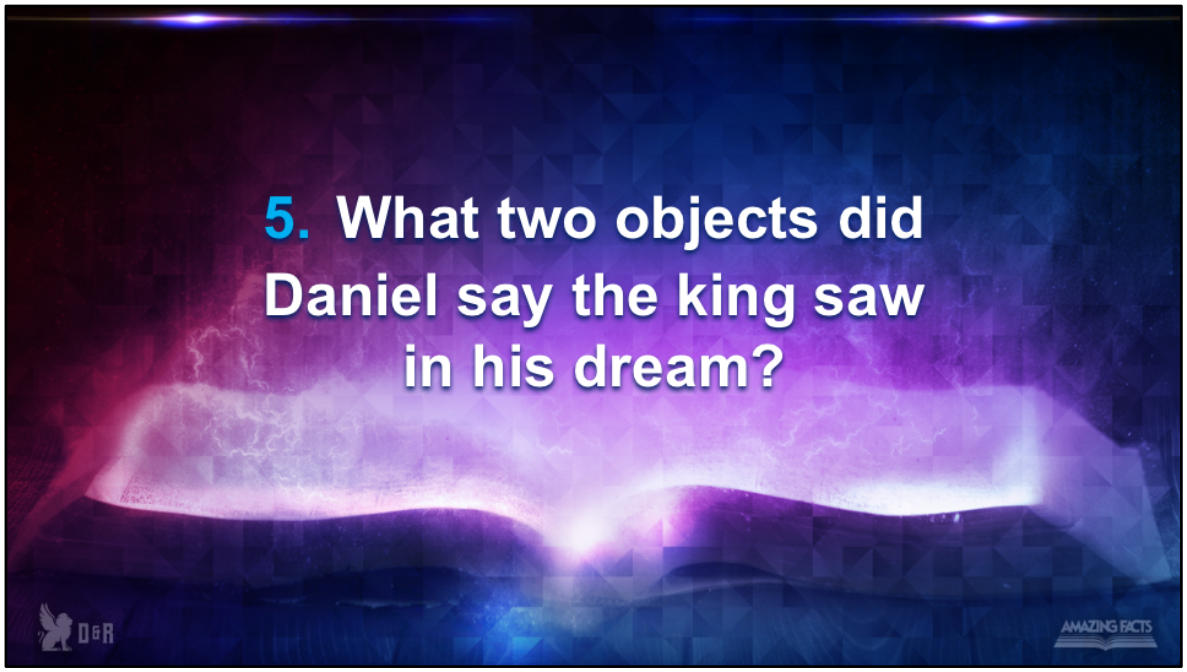

4. When the Lord revealed the dream to Daniel, to whom did he give praise and credit?
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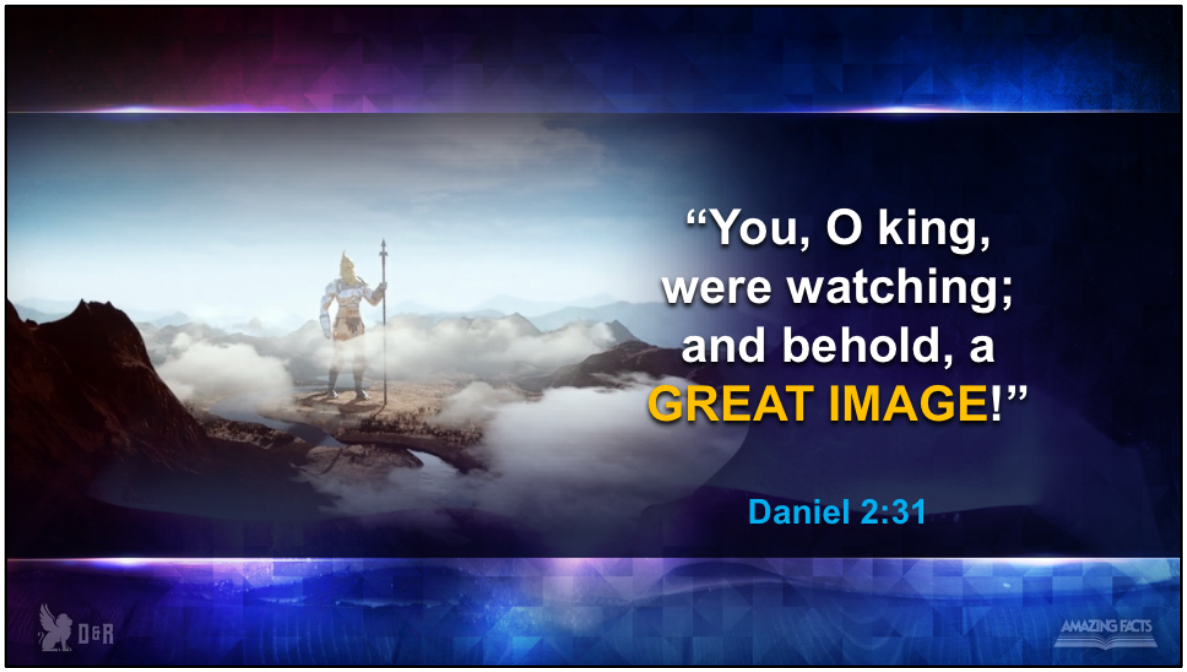


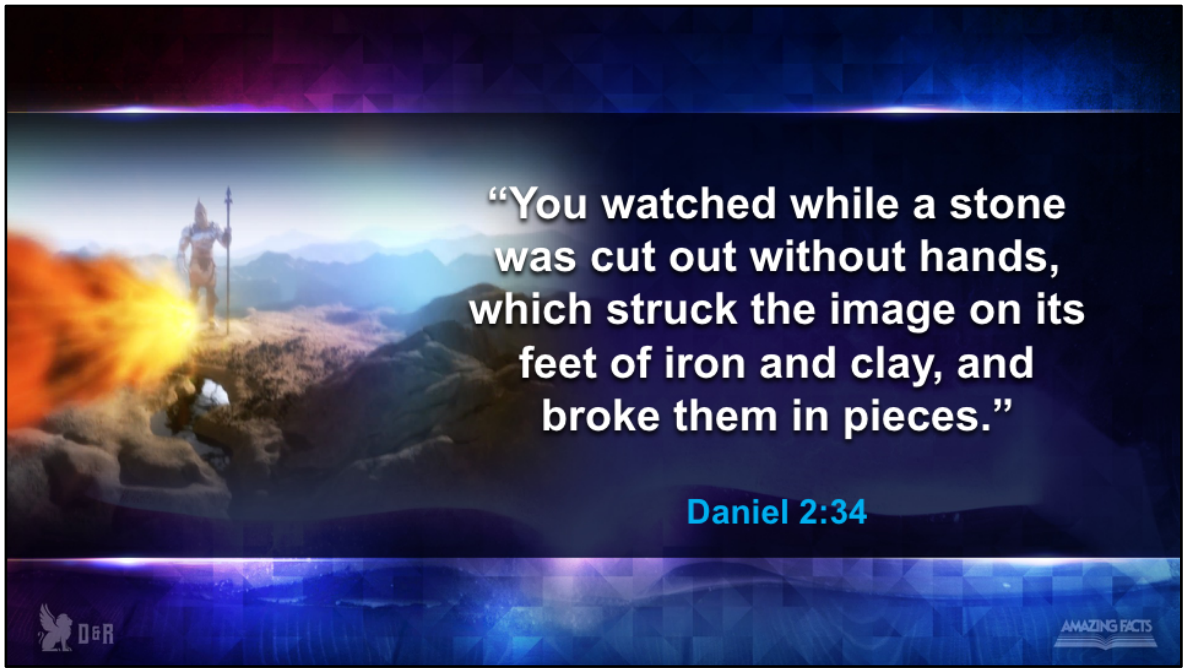
The rise and fall of empires may appear as if happening by the will of men, but Daniel's prayer of praise clearly reveals the essence of divine intervention. Nothing happens that God is not already aware of and has notallowed.

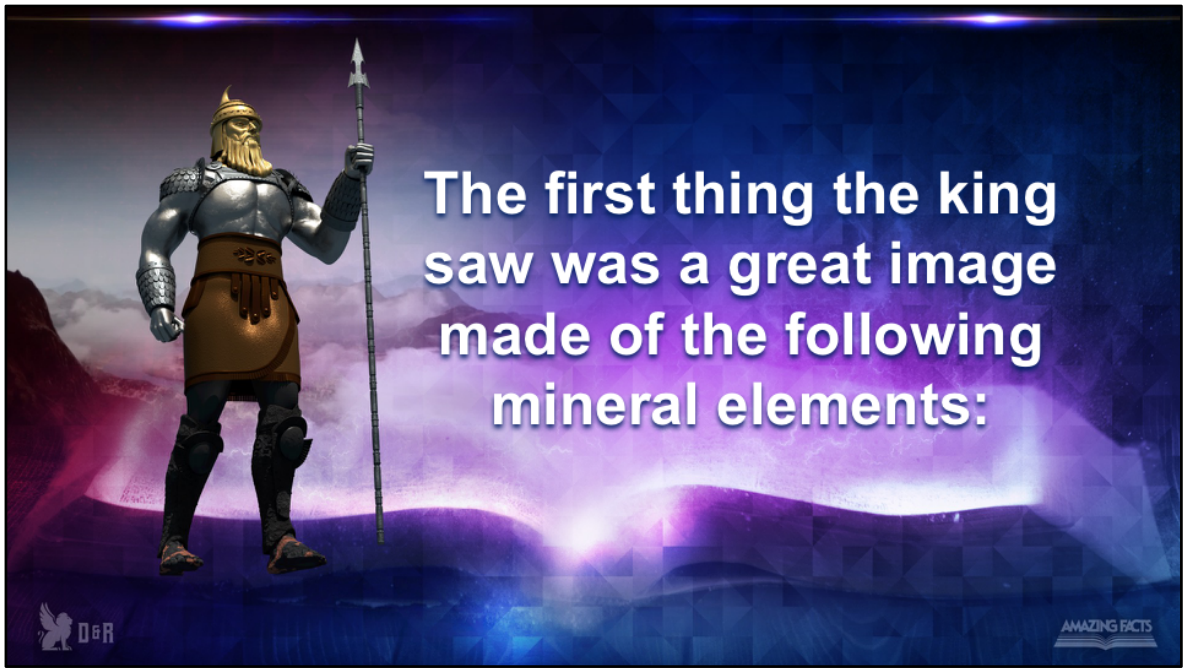


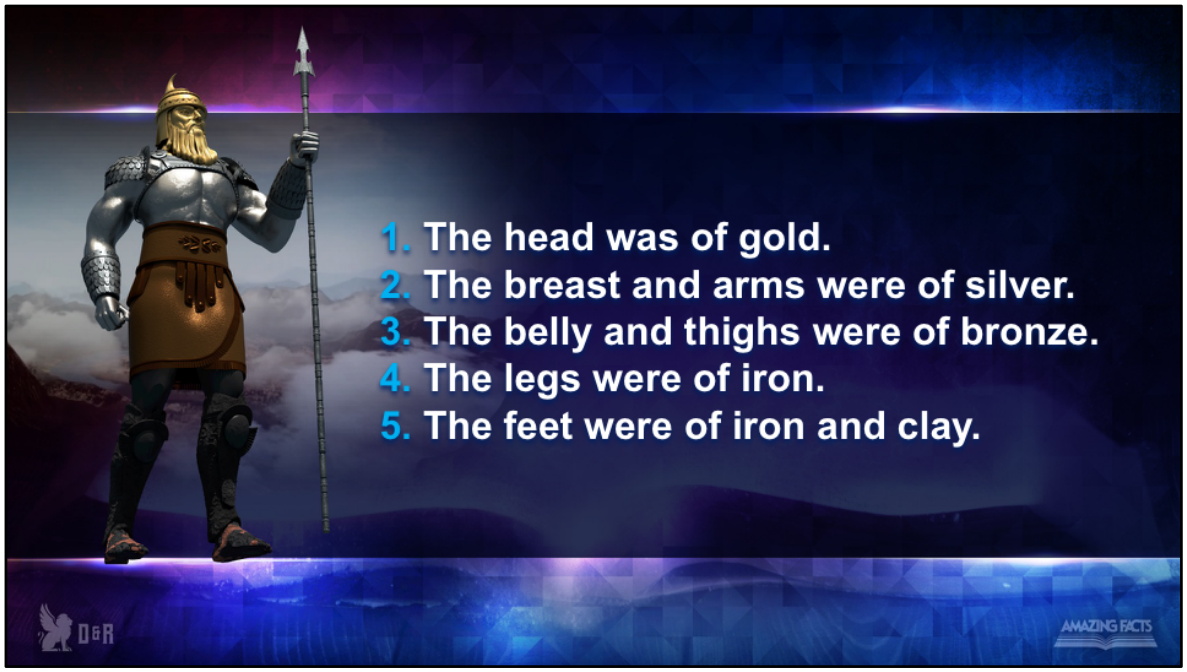
Sometimes we may not understand what is happening in our world today or why, but it is comforting to know that God is still sovereign. Only Daniel could reveal the dream to the king, yet he clearly gives the credit to the One who revealed the dream to him—the God of heaven.


5. What two objects did Daniel say the king saw in his dream?
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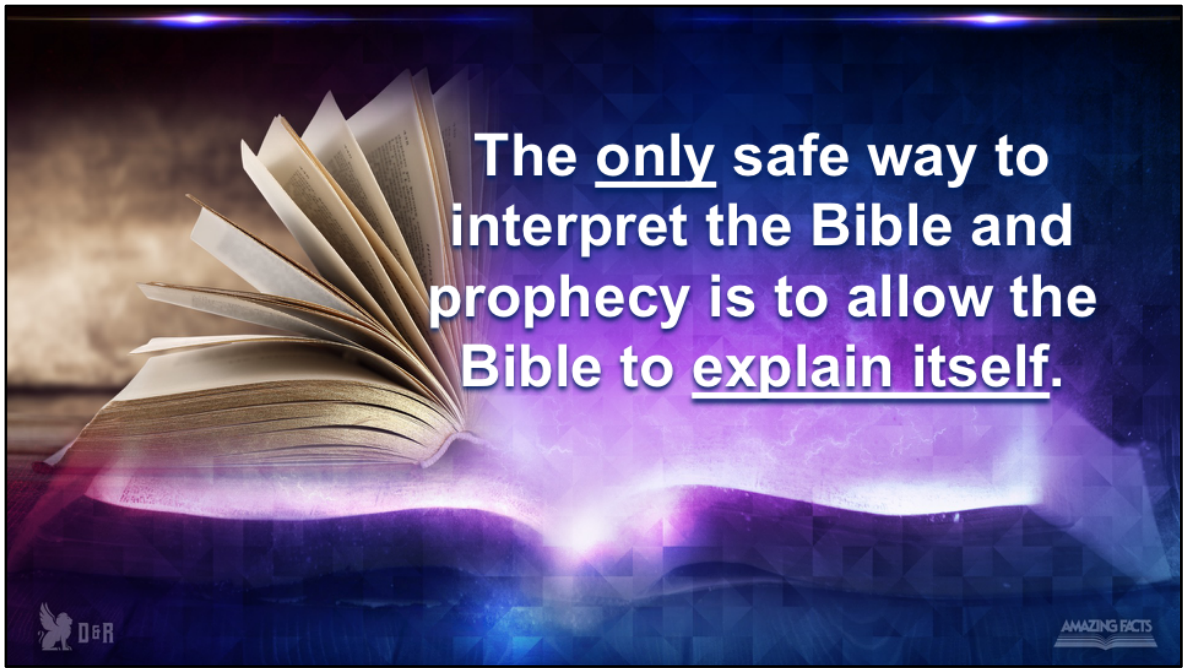

"You, O king,
were watching;
and behold, a
GREAT IMAGE!"
Daniel 2:31
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"You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces."
Daniel 2:34
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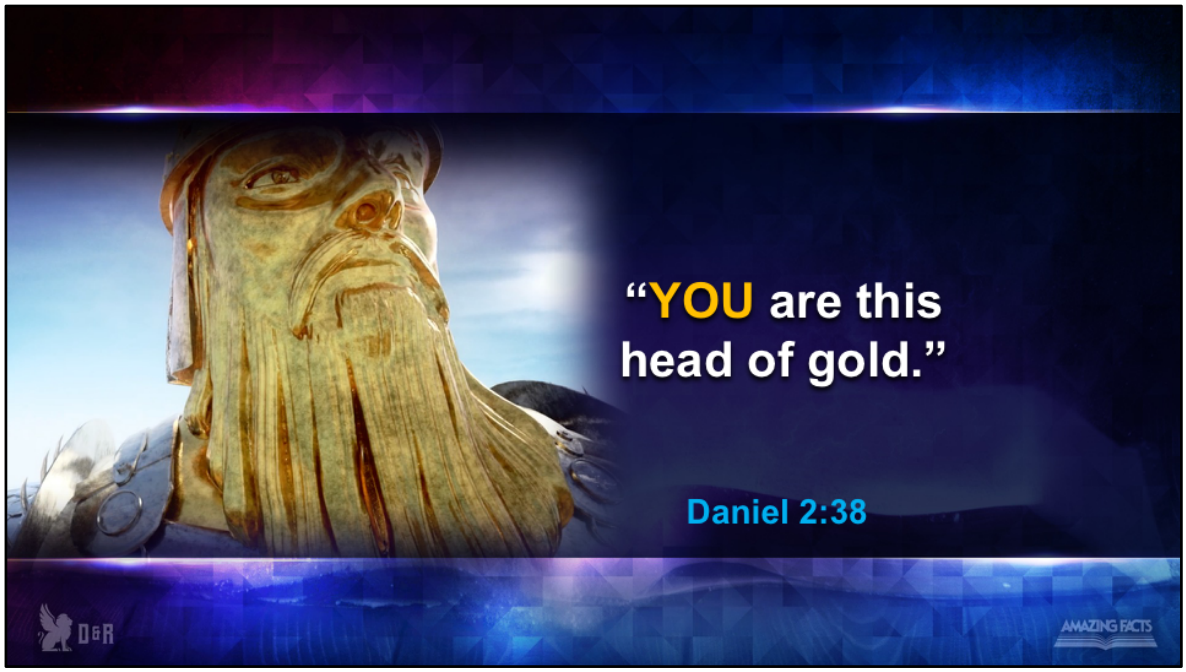

The first thing the king saw was a great image made of the following mineral elements:
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Next, the king saw a stone that had been cut without hands. At this point, King Nebuchadnezzar was no doubt sitting spellbound on the edge of his throne. Daniel had related the dream precisely as God had given it to him. Now the king eagerly waited, wondering what the dream meant. Daniel proceeded to explain the interpretation as the Lord had revealed it to him, and we would do well to take it just as He gave it.


The only safe way to interpret the Bible and prophecy is to allow the Bible to explain itself.
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6. What does the head of gold represent?
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"YOU are this head of gold."
Daniel 2:38
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The king was regarded as the head of the state. This is why Nebuchadnezzar represented Babylon, the empire that began the prophecy. Neo-Babylon ruled the world from 612-539 B.C. as one of the mightiest empires of antiquity—one that could aptly be described as the head of gold. Notice that the prophecy begins with Daniel's time.


7. Would the Babylonian kingdom last forever?
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"But after you shall arise ANOTHER kingdom inferior to yours."
Daniel 2:39
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Babylon's supremacy would not last forever. Succeeding kingdoms, inferior to Babylon, would rule in their turn. Just as silver is inferior to gold, so the kingdom that followed Babylon enjoyed diminished glory.



Led by Cyrus in 539 B.C., the Medo-Persian empire conquered Babylon and reduced it to ruins. The Medes and Persians were the ruling world power from 539-331 B.C. During their reign, all taxes had to be paid in silver.


8. What metal would represent the kingdom that followed Medo-Persia?
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"Then another, a third kingdom of BRONZE, which shall rule over all the earth."
Daniel 2:39
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The brass kingdom of Greece came into power when Alexander the Great conquered the Medes and Persians at the battle of Arbela in 331 B.C., and Greece remained in power until about 168 B.C. Greek soldiers were called “brazen coated” because their armor was all bronze. Notice how each succeeding mineral depicted in the image is less valuable, yet more enduring than the one before it.


9. What metal represents the fourth kingdom?
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"And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as IRON."
Daniel 2:39
D&R
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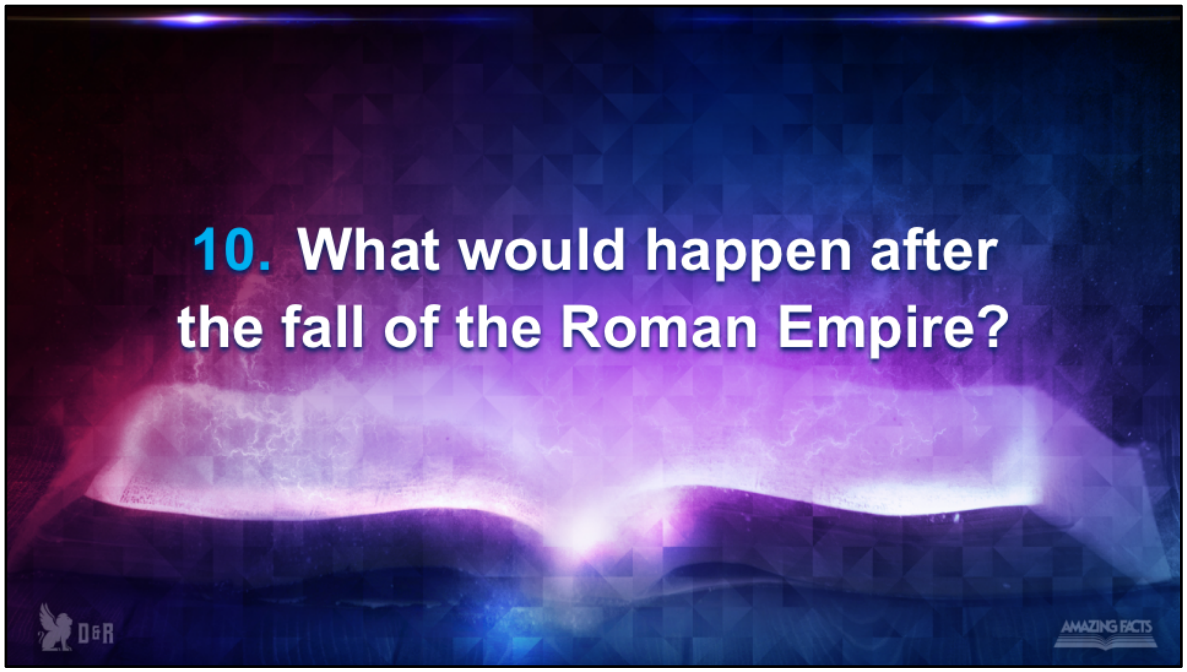
The iron monarchy of Rome conquered the Greeks in 168 B.C. and enjoyed world supremacy until Rome was captured by the Ostrogoths in A.D. 476.

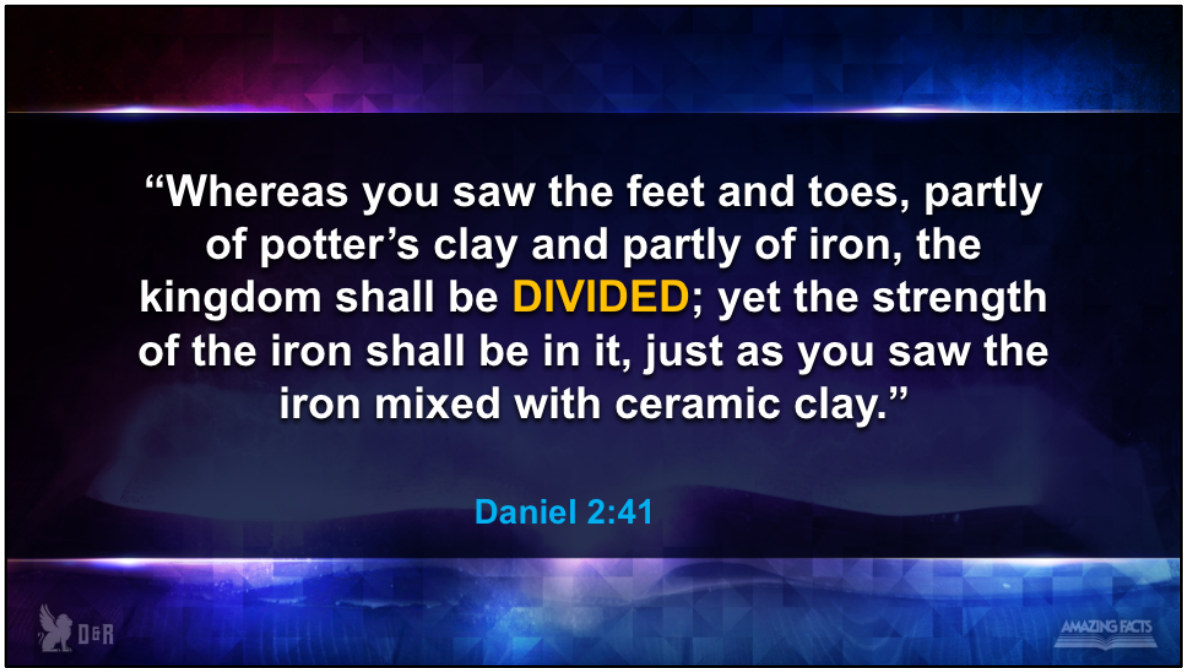


Rome is the kingdom that dominated the world when Jesus Christ was born.



Notice how Daniel foretold a thousand years of world history with unerring accuracy. The rise and fall of these four world empires—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome—are clearly foretold in the Bible and proved by the history books.


10. What would happen after the fall of the Roman Empire?
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"Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be DIVIDED; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay."
Daniel 2:41
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"And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be PARTLY STRONG and PARTLY FRAGILE."
Daniel 2:42
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When the Roman Empire began to crumble in A.D. 476, it was not overtaken by another world power. Instead, barbarian tribes conquered the Roman Empire and divided it—just as Daniel prophesied. Ten of these tribes evolved into modern Europe.

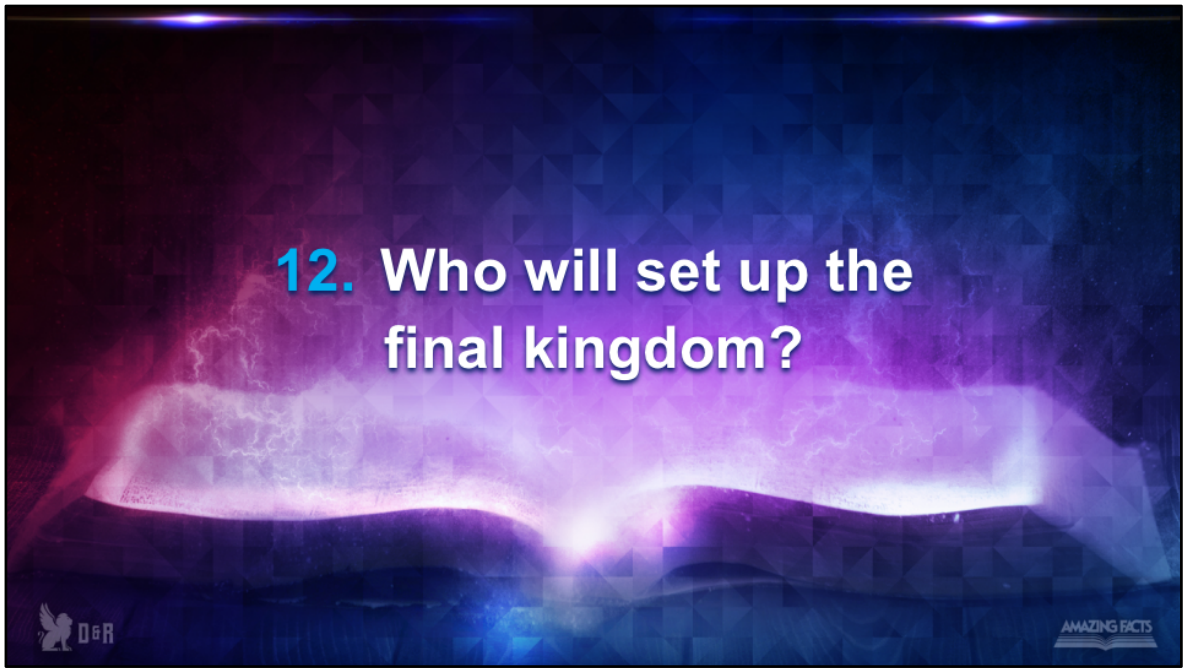


They were the Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Alemannians, Sueves, Anglo-Saxons, Heruls, Lombards, and Burgundians. Seven of them still exist today in Europe. For example, the Anglo-Saxons became the English, the Franks became the French, the Alemannians became the Germans, and the Lombards became the Italians.


11. Would these 10 kingdoms ever succeed in uniting?
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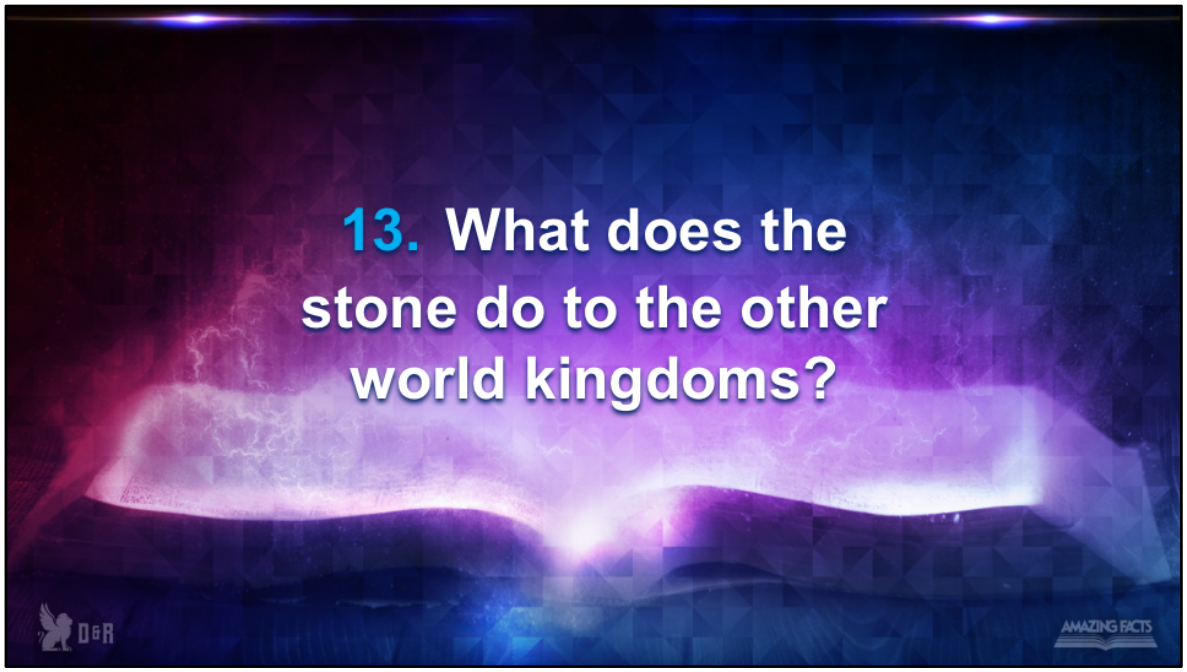
Through marriage, alliances, and treaties, men have vainly attempted to reunite the European continent. All throughout history, leaders such as Charlemagne, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, Mussolini, and Hitler have fought to build a new European empire; but these words of Scripture have stopped every single would-be world ruler. Revelation 13 tells us there will be another attempt to establish a universal religion, but Daniel's prophecy clearly states that the world will remain politically divided for the rest of Earth's history.

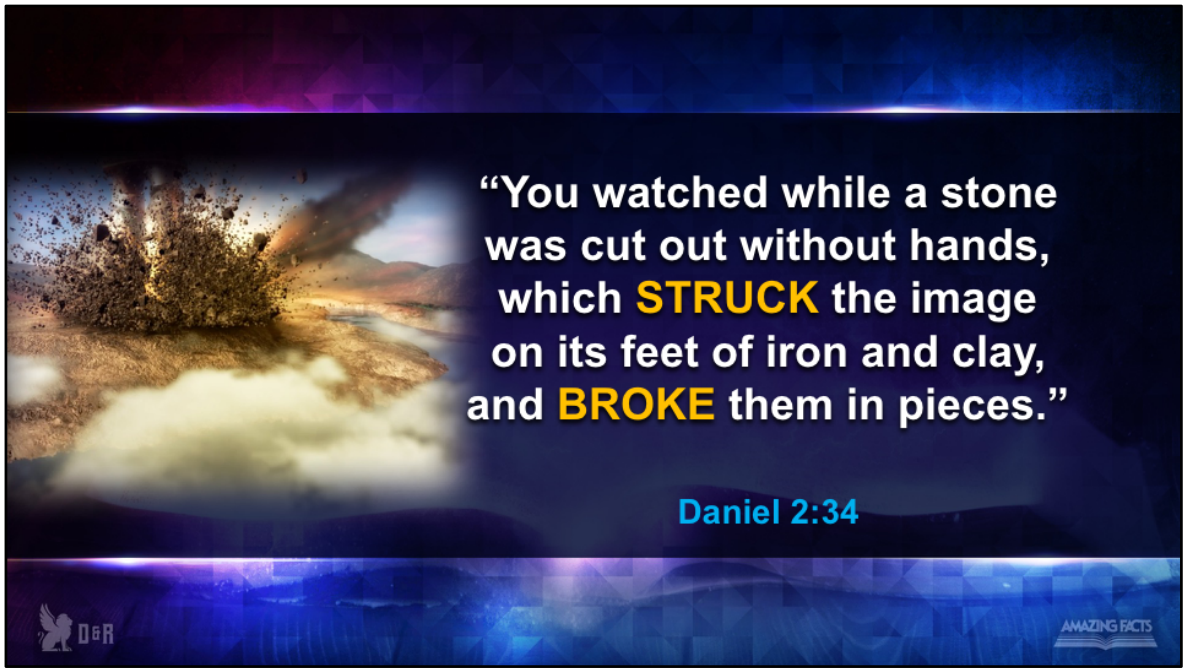

12. Who will set up the final kingdom?
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The next great universal kingdom will be the kingdom of heaven, which is described in Matthew 25:31-34.


Gold = Babylon 612–539 B.C.
Silver = Medo-Persia 539–331 B.C.
Bronze = Greece 331–168 B.C.
Iron = Rome 168 B.C.–A.D. 476
Iron & Clay = Divided Empire
No single power has ruled the world since A.D. 476, and it will remain divided until Christ's return.
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13. What does the stone do to the other world kingdoms?
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"You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which STRUCK the image on its feet of iron and clay, and BROKE them in pieces."
Daniel 2:34
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"Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors;"
Daniel 2:35
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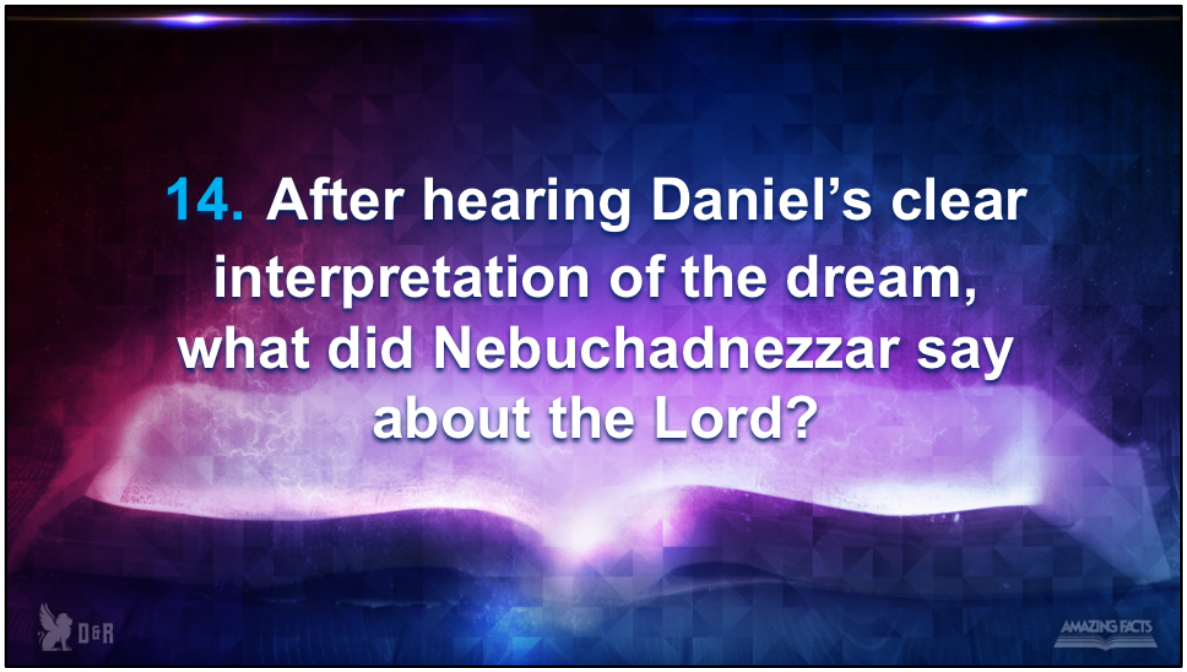


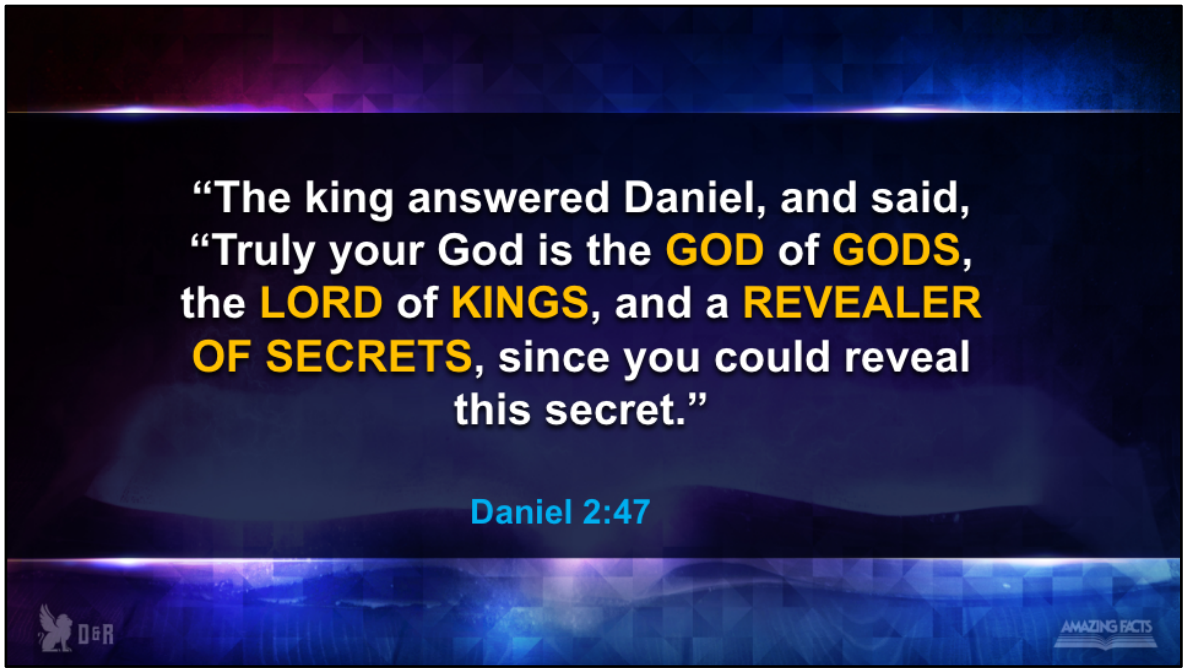
The stone that was cut without human hands represents God's kingdom. It will not be a conglomeration of earthly kingdoms, but a total replacement (Revelation 21:1). The Scriptures declare that when Jesus Christ returns to earth, He will completely consume all the kingdoms of earth and establish an everlasting kingdom (Daniel 2:44).



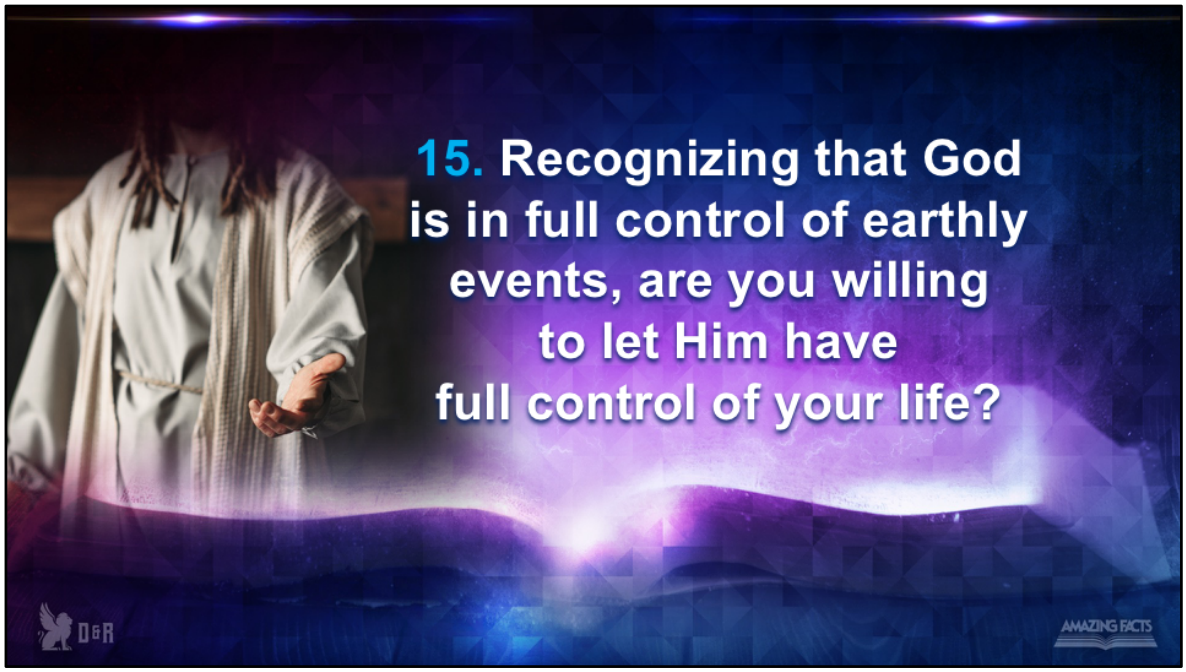
All history is moving toward this climactic conclusion, when the Son of God shall return in majesty to bring in the kingdom of everlasting righteousness. King Nebuchadnezzar may have thought that he had defeated the true God when he besieged Jerusalem and plundered the temple (Daniel 1:1, 2), but he was shown very quickly that God is ruler over all. Human events are under His control, and ultimately He will win the conflict. Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and the 10 divisions of the Roman Empire may have sought to usurp divine authority and destroy the people of God.


ALL EARTHLY KINGDOMS will eventually be CRUSHED by the COMING OF CHRIST. Thank God, He will win the great controversy!
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14. After hearing Daniel's clear interpretation of the dream, what did Nebuchadnezzar say about the Lord?
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Having seen that God has complete control of world events, even Nebuchadnezzar readily acknowledged that the God Daniel served was above all the heathen gods of Babylon. How quickly the picture had changed! Daniel and his friends, because of their faithfulness to God, were elevated from their initial captivity in Babylon to positions of prominent leadership for the kingdom (Daniel 2:48, 49). God always honors those who honor Him (1 Samuel 2:30).


15. Recognizing that God is in full control of earthly events, are you willing to let Him have full control of your life?
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